



## Book I.XXII

### Propertius Discusses His Home

Qualis et unde genus, qui sint mihi, Tulle, Penates,

quaeris pro nostra semper amicitia.

si Perusina tibi patriae sunt nota sepulcra,

Italiae duris funera temporibus,

cum Romana suos egit discordia cives— 5

sic mihi praecipue, pulvis Etrusca, dolor,

tu proiecta mei perpessa's membra propinqui,

tu nullo miseri contegis ossa solo—

proxima suppositos contingens Umbria campos

me genuit terris fertilis uberibus. 10

**Meter:** Elegiac Couplets

**Written c. 29 BCE**

**1: Qualis** = Quales

**Penates:** Penates, in the ancient Roman religion, were household divinities; their worship was centered in the hearth where a permanent fire honored them (see picture, right).

**et unde genus:** “and from what race/stock”

**3: Perusina:** ADJ of *Perusia*: Perusia (modern Perugia) was in Etruria, where Octavian (later Augustus Caesar) defeated Lucius Antonius in the Civil Wars in 41BC with much bloodshed.

**6: praecipue** ADV: especially; chiefly.

**pulvis, pulveris** N dust, powder; sand.

**7: perpessa's** = *perpessa es* > *perpetior, perpeti, perpessus sum* DEP: endure to the full.

**proiecta:** “tossed up”

**propinqui:** “kinsman”

**8: miseri:** substantive, “of a miserable man.”

**solo** > *solum*, -i N: soil, land.

**9: suppositos:** “situated below”

**10: fertilis, fertilis, fertile** ADJ: fertile, fruitful; abundant.

